

1-1 By: Farney, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Schwertner) H.C.R. No. 35  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 11, 2015;  
 1-3 May 13, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on  
 1-4 Administration; May 18, 2015, reported favorably by the following  
 1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 18, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Hancock	X			
1-8 Uresti	X			
1-9 Campbell	X			
1-10 Eltife			X	
1-11 Huffines	X			
1-12 Schwertner			X	
1-13 West	X			

1-15 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1-16 WHEREAS, Of all the Lone Star State's unique items of  
 1-17 headwear that Texans have used to adorn their heads, perhaps none  
 1-18 says "Texan" more fashionably than the Cowboy Hat; and

1-19 WHEREAS, The heritage of the Lone Star State is closely  
 1-20 associated with images of cowboys and the western frontier, and  
 1-21 these elements are reflected in several of the current Texas  
 1-22 symbols, including rodeo, the official state sport, and the  
 1-23 longhorn, the state large mammal; and

1-24 WHEREAS, Broad-brimmed hats with high crowns can be seen  
 1-25 being worn by nomadic warriors like the Mongolian Horsemen as far  
 1-26 back as the 13th century; the hats made their way to Europe where  
 1-27 they were adopted by the Spaniards in the 15th and 16th centuries;  
 1-28 the Spaniards brought the hats to the New World where the style was  
 1-29 embraced by the horsemen and cattle herders of Spanish Mexico  
 1-30 called "vaqueros" and blended with other styles such as the  
 1-31 "sombbrero"; and

1-32 WHEREAS, The emergence of the cowboy in the southwestern  
 1-33 United States in the 19th century secured the cowboy hat's place in  
 1-34 history; the hats varied in style and material while maintaining a  
 1-35 wide brim and high crown; the wide brim provided the face, neck, and  
 1-36 shoulders of the wearer shade from the sun and cover from the rain  
 1-37 while enduring the elements on a ranch or cattle drive; and

1-38 WHEREAS, The modern cowboy hat's development is credited to  
 1-39 John B. Stetson, who crafted a hat by hand out of felt made from  
 1-40 animal skins in 1865; the hat became known as the "Boss of the  
 1-41 Plains" and this style of hat was popularized through the late 19th  
 1-42 and early 20th centuries; and

1-43 WHEREAS, The cowboy hat continued to gain notoriety both for  
 1-44 its utility to the wearer and for its fashionable appeal; it became  
 1-45 common to see presidents, governors, singers and musicians, movie  
 1-46 stars, athletes, and the average Texan wearing a cowboy hat; the hat  
 1-47 even became a required item of a Department of Public Safety  
 1-48 Trooper's uniform and an approved part of the Texas Ranger's  
 1-49 uniform; and

1-50 WHEREAS, An essential piece of clothing for a cowboy on a  
 1-51 cattle drive, a Texas Trooper on duty, or a fashion accessory that  
 1-52 can be personalized by shape and material, the cowboy hat reflects  
 1-53 the individualism that is so much a part of the Texan identity,  
 1-54 elegant in its appearance while maintaining practicality in its  
 1-55 function; classy, yet sensible, modern and esteemed, the cowboy hat  
 1-56 has stood the test of time, while enduring the elements, cattle  
 1-57 drives, and modern fashion trends and continuing to exhibit a sense  
 1-58 of style and dignified appearance; and

1-59 WHEREAS, The cowboy hat symbolizes both the state's iconic  
 1-60 western culture and the uniqueness of its residents, and it is  
 1-61 indeed appropriate that this stylish and dignified apparel receive

2-1 special legislative recognition; now, therefore, be it  
2-2       RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas  
2-3 hereby designate the cowboy hat as the official State Hat of Texas.

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